

Amendments to the Drawings

Figure 1 is amended to include the legend "Prior Art". Attached is a marked-up version of the original Figure 1 with the legend "Prior Art" written in red ink.

Attachment: A marked-up version of the original Figure 1.
A replacement sheet for the corrected Figure 1.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the amendments above and the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-22 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-17, and 19 have been rejected. Claims 4, 6, 10, 13, and 18 are objected to. Claims 20-22 are allowed. Accordingly, Claims 1-22 are now pending in the application.

Objections to the Drawings

Within the Office Action, Figure 1 is objected to because it lacks a legend such as "Prior Art". By the above amendments to the drawings, Figure 1 is amended to include the legend "Prior Art".

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-17, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,745,252 to Yanagawa et al. (hereinafter "Yanagawa"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Yanagawa teaches a network of devices and controllers connected together via a transmission line 1. The transmission line 1 is an IEEE 1394-based serial bus. As used within Yanagawa, a "device" is a network device that is being controlled, and a "controller" is a network device that is doing the controlling (Yanagawa, col. 5, lines 51-53). Each device and each controller corresponds to a single node on the transmission line 1 (Yanagawa, col. 5, lines 53-57). As such, each controller and each device are a network device within a given local network, e.g. the IEEE 1394-based serial bus represented as transmission line 1. One such network device is PC 23. Yanagawa teaches that the PC 23 includes "a modem that provides an interface to a telephone line" (Yanagawa, col. 12, lines 6-9). However, this is the extent of which the modem is used. There is no hint, teaching, or suggestion within Yanagawa that indicates the modem is used for any communication means between the PC 23 and any other of the network devices within the local network (connected to transmission line 1). Additionally, there is no hint, teaching, or suggestion within Yanagawa that the modem receives requests from the telephone line, where the requests are directed to network devices within the local network. Yanagawa teaches that control requests are originated by controllers, as in Figure 3, from within the local network. The local network is defined as the network of devices connected to

transmission line 1. In other words, Yanagawa teaches a method of transmitting requests within a local network.

One of the specific purposes of the present invention is to provide a transparent means by which a remote device can access and transmit requests to a device within a local network. The present invention specifically teaches a telephone line as a transmission means by which the remote device exchanges requests with network devices within a local network. The requests are received by a modem connected to the telephone line. Yanagawa does not teach such a configuration nor a mode of transmitting requests.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a protocol repeater for allowing a remote device to access a network having devices coupled through an IEEE-1394 bus. The protocol repeater of Claim 1 comprises a modem connected to a telephone line to receive a request directed to a device in the IEEE 1394-based network from the remote device, an interface connected to the IEEE 1394-based network, and a processor to receive the request from the modem and transmit the request to the IEEE 1394-based network via the interface using IEEE-1394 protocol. As discussed above, Yanagawa does not teach a device that includes a modem where the modem receives requests. Further, Yanagawa does not teach a modem that receives requests where the requests are directed to a device within an IEEE 1394-based network. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 are dependent on the independent Claim 1. As described above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa. Accordingly, Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 8 is directed to a protocol repeater for allowing a remote device to access a network having devices coupled through an IEEE-1394 bus. The protocol repeater of Claim 8 comprises a modem means connected to a telephone line for receiving a request directed to a device in the IEEE-1394 network from the remote device, an interface means connected to the IEEE 1394-based network, and a processor means for receiving the request from the modem means and transmitting the request to the IEEE 1394-based network via the interface means using IEEE-1394 protocol. As discussed above, Yanagawa does not teach a device that includes a modem where the modem receives requests. Further, Yanagawa does not teach a modem that receives requests where the requests are directed to a device within an IEEE 1394-based network. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 8 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa.

Claims 9, 11, 12, and 14 are dependent on the independent Claim 8. As described above, the independent Claim 8 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa. Accordingly, Claims 9, 11, 12, and 14 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 15 is directed to method of employing a telephone line to connect a remote device to a network having devices coupled through an IEEE-1394 bus. The method of Claim 15 comprises receiving an incoming telephone call from the remote device, generating a bus reset of the IEEE-1394 bus in response to the telephone call, receiving from the remote device a request directed to a device in the IEEE-1394 network, and transmitting the request to the IEEE-1394 network using IEEE-1394 protocols. As discussed above, Yanagawa does not teach receiving requests over a telephone line. Further, Yanagawa does not teach receiving requests over a telephone line where the requests are directed to a device within an IEEE 1394-based network. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 15 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa.

Claims 16, 17, and 19 are dependent on the independent Claim 15. As described above, the independent Claim 15 is allowable over the teachings of Yanagawa. Accordingly, Claims 16, 17, and 19 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 20-22 are allowed.

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-22 are now in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: November 22, 2004

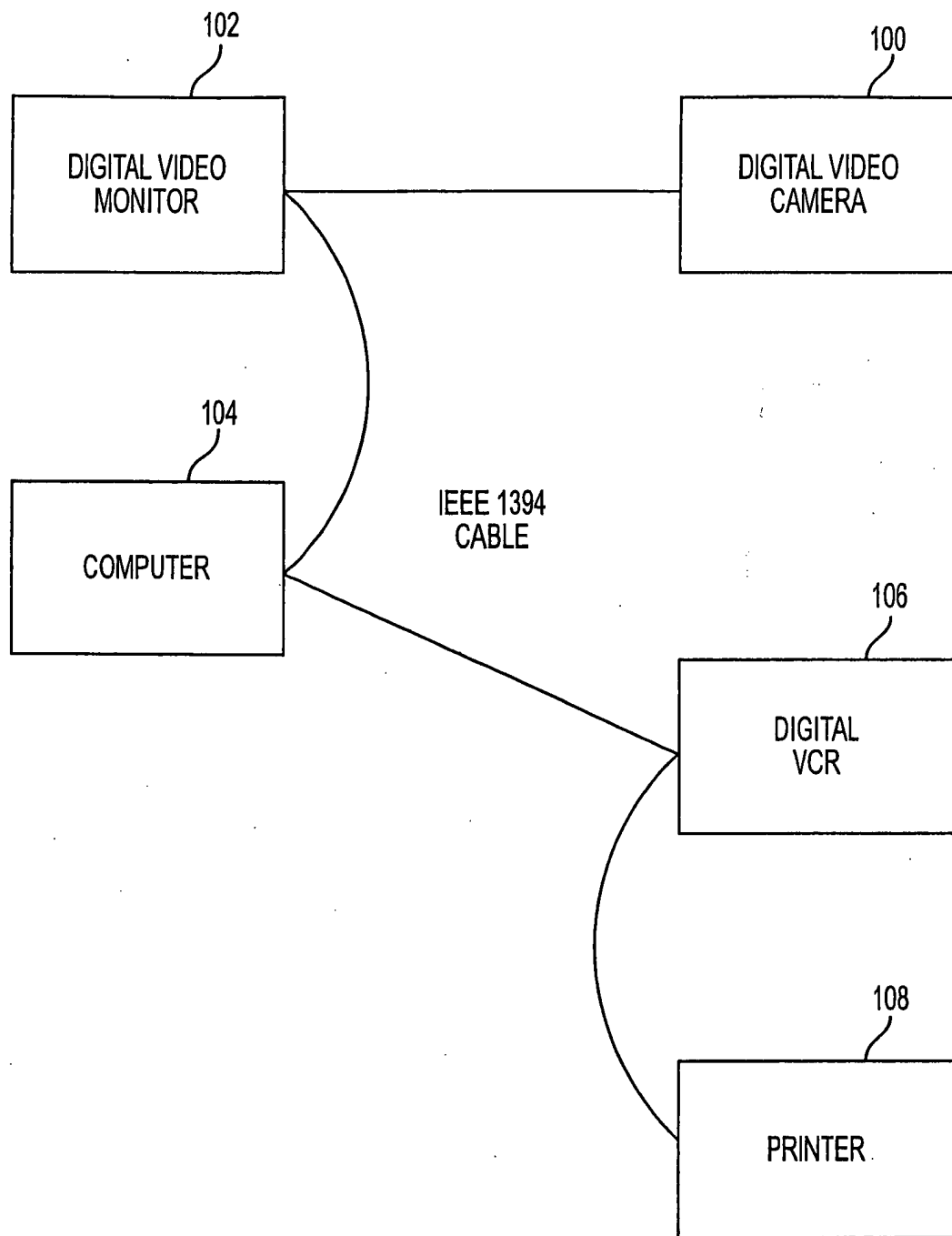
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

Date: 11-22-04 By: Jonathan O. Owens



PRIOR ART

FIG. 1